TOKYOPOP
KING OF HELL™
Contains a preview of Jae-Hwan Kim's War Angels!
16
RA IN-SOO • JAE-HWAN KIM
English Adaptation By R. A. Jones

KING OF HELL

VOLUME 16

BY

BA IN-SOO

&

JAE-HWAN KIM

KING OF HELL™

WHO THE HELL...?

MAJEH:

When he was alive, Majeh was an extremely powerful and much-feared warrior. In death, Majeh was recruited to be a collector of souls for the King of Hell. Recently, Majeh was returned to his human form in order to destroy the escaped evil spirits for the King of Hell.

CHUNG POONG NAMGOONG:

Once branded as a coward, Chung Poong left his once-respected family hoping to prove himself at the Martial Arts Tournament in Nakyang. Broke and desperate, Chung Poong tried to rob Majeh. In a very rare moment of pity, Majeh allowed Chung Poong to live...and to tag along with him. Chung Poong was recently forced to fight—and kill—his older brother, who had been kidnapped and turned into a zombie.

DOHWA BAIK:

A vivacious vixen who often dispatches enemies with poisoned needles. Dohwa joined Majeh and Chung Poong after repeatedly humiliating the hapless trio known as the Insane Hounds. Recently, she journeyed home to retrieve a powerful, but evil, whip called the Mapyun. It's a mighty weapon that few can wield without the Mapyun's dark power overtaking them, but Dohwa seems to have mastered it, which makes her a formidable fighter.

KING OF HELL:

You were expecting horns and a pitchfork? This benevolent, otherworldly ruler reigns over the souls of the dead like a shepherd tending his flock.

SAMHUK:

Originally sent by the King of Hell to spy on the unpredictable Majeh, Samhuk was quickly discovered and now—much to his dismay—acts as the warrior's ghostly manservant.

YOUNG:

A 15-year-old sword-master possessing incredible speed, he is affiliated with Mooyoung Moon,--a clan of assassins 500 strong. After seeing Majeh defeat the demon-possessed master at the martial arts tournament, Young admitted he has no interest in fighting Majeh. Not yet, at any rate.

CRAZY DOG

A young warrior skilled at fighting with a club, Majeh met and fought Crazy Dog in the Martial Arts Tournament at Nakyang, where the young warrior lost his life. He was later reanimated by the villainous Dong Sa and now lays in a coma in the remote village of Moorim.

CERBERUS

The three-headed dog that guards the entrance to the Next World. Cerberus was commanded to join Majeh and his party (much to his reluctance) by the King of Hell. With his powerful attacks and knowledge of demons and the underworld, Cerberus is a mighty ally. His attitude, on the other hand, leaves something to be desired...

THE INSANE HOUNDS

A trio of dim-witted "masters" who always seem to wind up in the thick of it. The Insane Hounds frequently seem to butt heads with Dohwa, who has defeated them on numerous occasions. They were recently granted near indestructibility after they bathed in a magical pool. (And one of them peed in it.)

What The Hell...?

Hell's worst inmates have escaped and fled to Earth. Seeking recently-deceased bodies to host their bitter souls, these malevolent master fighters are part of an evil scheme that could have dire consequences for both This World and the Next World. It is believed that the escaped fiends are hunting for bodies of martial arts experts, as only bodies trained in martial arts would be capable of properly employing their incredible skills.

To make matters even more difficult, the otherworldly energy emitted by the fugitives will dissipate within one month's time... after which, they will be indistinguishable from normal humans and undetectable to those from the Next World. The King of Hell has assigned Majeh to hunt down Hell's Most Wanted and return them to the Next World...but Majeh doesn't always do exactly what he's told.

Majeh was a master swordsman in life and, in death, he serves as an envoy for the King of Hell, escorting souls of the dead to the Next World. Majeh caught Samhuk--a servant for the King of Hell--spying on him and, after making the appropriate threats, now uses Samhuk as his own servant as well.

The King of Hell has reunited Majeh's spirit with his physical body, which was perfectly preserved for 300 years. Powerful as he is, however, Majeh can't turn back time, and his thirty-day deadline is fast approaching. Already, the energy that allows him to track the fugitives is growing thin and hard to detect. So, to assist him, the King of Hell has provided Majeh with a

powerful new ally: Cerberus, the three-headed dog that guards the entrance to the Next World. With his highly refined sense of smell, Cerberus could be of great assistance to Majeh, but that doesn't mean the dog was eager to tag along with him. Yet, join him he did (after some firm prodding from the King of Hell), and now Cerberus accompanies Majeh on his journey.

Along with the young, wannabe-warrior called Chung Poong Namgoong, a beautiful femme fatale named Dohwa Baik and a sword-wielding assassin named Young, Majeh and Cerberus have journeyed on their quest to Raven Ghost Isle, a cursed island feared by sailors and pirates alike. It did not take them long to discover how the island earned such a reputation. Raven Ghost Isle serves as a bridge between This World and the Next World, and as such, it's teeming with evil spirits. The sole human inhabitants of the island seem to belong to a clan of martial artist who have made Raven Ghost Isle their home base. Their reasons for this become clear when Majeh discovers that they've been planting demon seedlings in humans, and in the process, creating human/demon hybrids. After dispatching a few of them, Majeh then turned his attention to the man who created them—a martial artist named Jin Song, who seemed to have traded his right arm for a demonic limb of great power. Easily defeated, Jin Song was merely an opening act for a much more powerful enemy: a pair of escaped fiends who defeated Chung Poong, Young and Dohwa, and seemingly killed Majeh. Now, all that remains is one seriously pissed off pooch--Cerberus!

I'LL TAKE OVER THE FIGHT FROM HERE, DOHWA!
O-OKAY... CERBERUS.

ARE YOU READY TO DIE, SHE-DEMON?

HMPH! YOU CERTAINLY TALK A GOOD FIGHT, DOGGY.

I TAKE IT YOU WERE SENT FROM THE NEXT WORLD TO HELP THAT WEAKLING MAJEH...

I JUST WISH I COULD BE THERE TO SEE THE EXPRESSION ON THE KING OF HELL'S FACE WHEN HE LEARNS YOU'VE BOTH BEEN *KILLED!*

YOU TALK OF DEATH?
HA HA HA HA! I'LL MAKE YOU LONG FOR DEATH!!

NO... IT CAN'T BE POSSIBLE...

THE SEAL RESTRAINING YOUR POWERS, MAJEH IT'S BEEN BROKEN?!
OH YEAH!

HA HA HA!
YOU SEEM QUITE HAPPY TO HEAR THAT, MOON JU!
I AM, BOY! MAYBE NOW YOU'LL PRESENT A REAL CHALLENGE!
四
BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR, DEMON.

!

...YOU MIGHT GET IT!

...!

HMPH!

TRY THIS, FIEND!

~!

A...FAN?!
ONE STRONG ENOUGH TO DEFLECT YOUR POWER, MAJEH
...
CARE TO TRY AGAIN?!

KHOOOOO

HHK!

HO HO! NOW WHO HAS THE UPPER HAND?

GRRR!

LISTEN TO ME! TO STOP HER, WE HAVE TO RETURN TO OUR ORIGINAL FORM!

IT'S OUR ONLY HOPE!
YOU DON'T MEAN... OUR HUMAN IMAGE?!
!
DAMN
HEH HEH!
WE'LL SEE WHO GETS THE LAST LAUGH, DEMON!!

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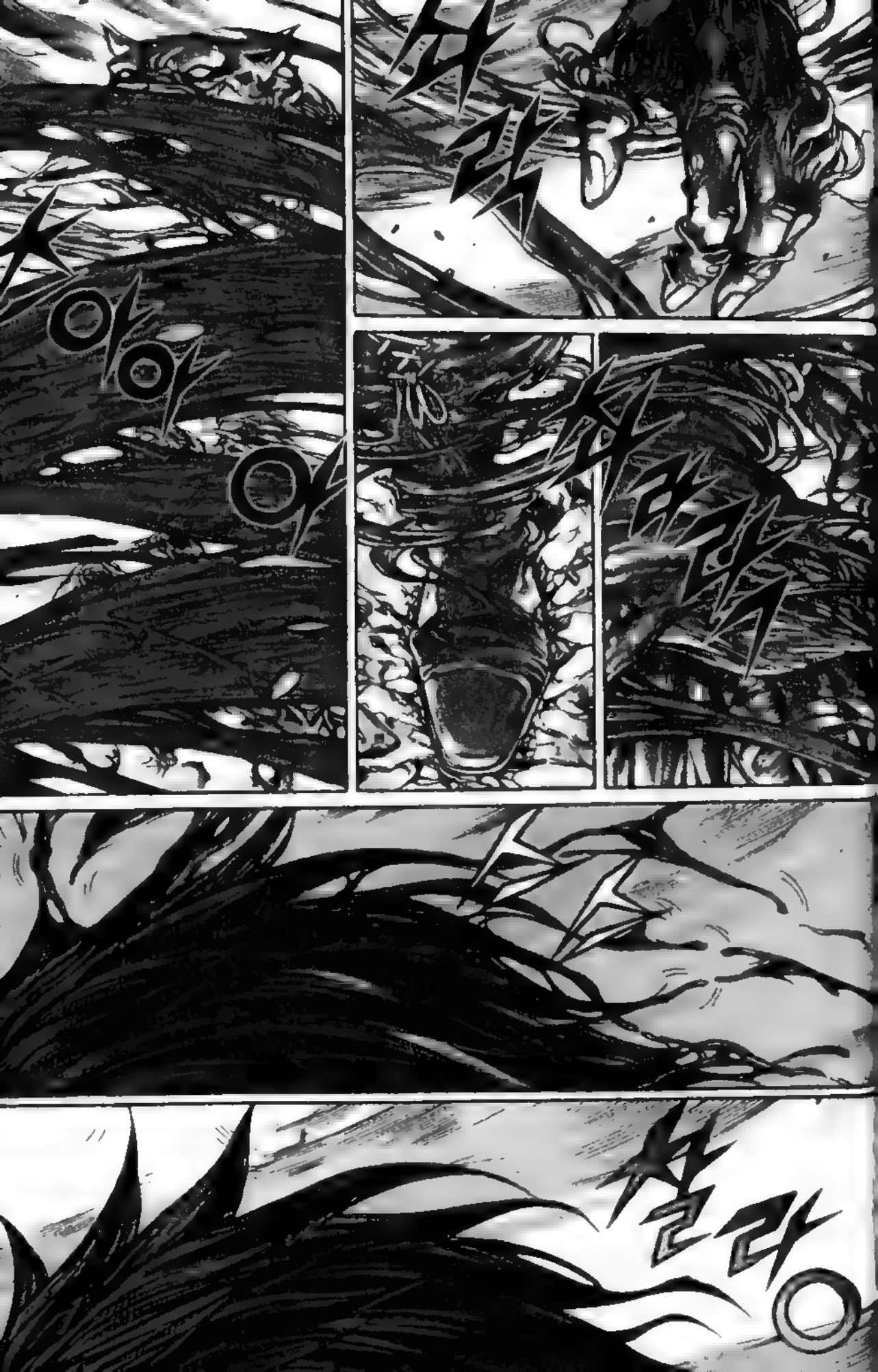
KING
HELL



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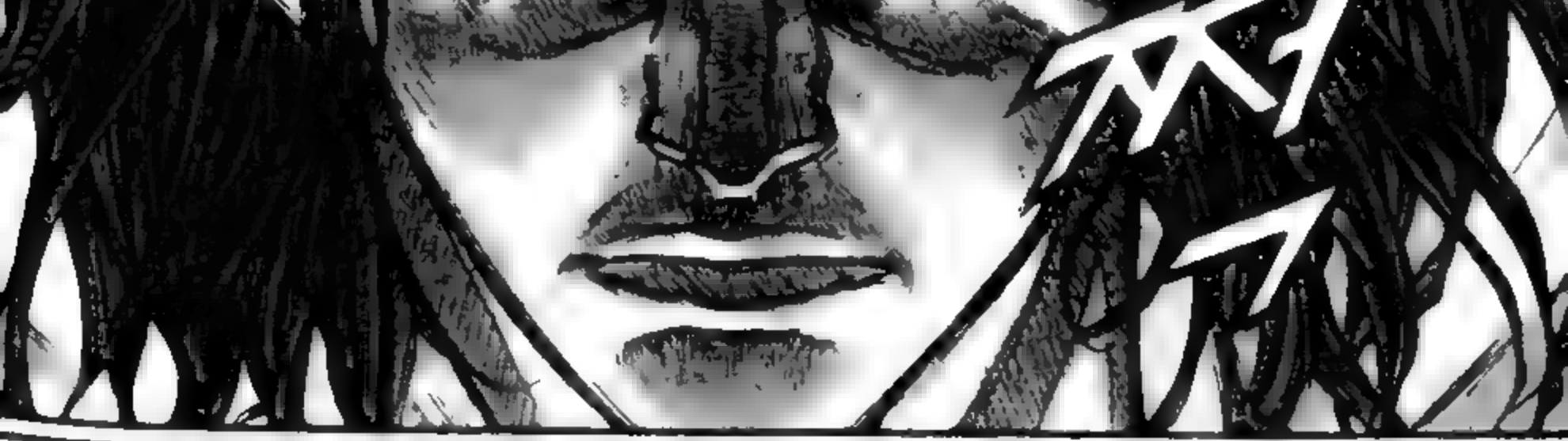


HE. HE'S TRANS-FORMED!
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU?!
GRRRRR!

WOMAN, YOU'RE GOING TO *PAY* FOR MAKING ME SHOW MYSELF IN THIS FORM!

...!

IS IT POSSIBLE... HE, TOO, IS FROM THE DEMON WORLD?!

HA!
IT LOOKS LIKE OLD HOT DOG HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO TRANSFORM INTO HIS HUMAN FORM. HE REALLY HATES THAT!
I'M WAITING, BOY!
BUT NOW BACK TO YOU, MOON JU!
SEE HOW YOU LIKE THIS!

HEAVEN'S ARROWS!

TOKYO

...

SPEED

OH, DEAR! IT SEEMS I'VE BLOCKED YOUR ATTACK AGAIN, MAJEH HEH HEH!
DON'T BE SO SURE, DEMON!
EH?
KOK

Y-YOU HURLED TWO BOLTS AT ONCE?!

AND THAT SURPRISES YOU?

WAIT TILL YOU SEE WHAT'S COMING NEXT!

NGGH!!
KO

HUH!

STRIKING ME WITH THE BUTT OF YOUR SWORD?
ARE YOU JUST TOYIN WITH ME NOW?!

SORRY ..DID I HURT YOUR FEELINGS?

ARRR...

THAT'S A BAD HABIT OF MINE I HOPE YOU'LL FORGIVE ME

HERE'S A THOUGHT...

SINCE WEAPONS HOLD NO CHARM FOR EXPERTS SUCH AS OURSELVES
.....
...AND SHOWY MARTIAL ARTS TECHNIQUES HAVE NO MEANING FOR US...
...WHY DON'T WE TRY PLAIN OLD HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT?
WITH PLEASURE!

FROM HERE ON, DEMON, OUR ONLY WEAPONS ARE STRENGTH AND SPEED!!

!!

!?

EK

THE KING

TOKOH

KHHK!

WHAT?!
IT'S...THE DOORWAY TO THE REALM OF THE EVIL SPIRITS!!

!

ERRGH..

SKREEEE!

YOU'RE.. STRONGER THAN I THOUGHT, MAJEH
AS STRONG AS I NEED TO BE, MOON JU'
BUT I HAVE TO END THIS QUICKLY BEFORE HE REALIZES I'M HURT TOO
TZZZ

YOU... YOU ARE A DEMON!

SHUT YOUR MOUTH!!

...!
GASP!

ONE

HE'S.. TOO STRONG
KLOOO
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN YOUR FRIENDS, MAJEH? WHILE YOU FIGHT ME, THEY ARE AT THE MERCY OF MY PARTNER!

IN FACT, THEY MAY ALREADY BE DEAD.

HEH...

ACTUALLY, IT'S THE OTHER WAY AROUND YOU SHOULD WORRY ABOUT YOUR PARTNER

WHAT?!

AS I SAID, CERBERUS IS NOW FIGHTING HER IN HIS ORIGINAL FORM

AND IN THAT FORM, EVEN I WOULD HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME DEFEATING HIM!

KAFF!
KAFF!
AIIEEEE!

YOU'RE NOT PLANNING TO JUST GIVE UP AND *DIE* ARE YOU?! YOU SHOULD AT LEAST PUT UP A FIGHT!

DON'T... DON'T BE SO FULL OF YOURSELF, DEVIL DOG!

YOU MIGHT INDEED BE FROM SOME POWERFUL DEMON CLAN, BUT I KNOW THAT IN *THIS WORLD*, A DEMON'S POWERS ARE REDUCED BY *HALF*!

IS THAT SO?
YES! SO, UNLESS YOU'RE THE KING OF DEMONS, IN THIS WORLD I CAN DEFEAT YOU!
FROM BLACK HEAVEN, I SUMMON ICE JADE!
HE OF OF

DIE, YOU DEMONIC BITCH!!

...!!

WHOOO

HEH...HEH

HA HA HA HA HA!!

WHAT'S SO FUNNY, WOMAN?

!!

H-HE STOPPED THE ICE JADE?! WITH ONE HAND?! I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF ANYONE DOING THAT BEFORE!!

WHAT SORT OF DEMON CAN WIELD HIS FULL POWER IN THE MORTAL WORLD?!

YOU'RE FINISHED

AND STOP CALLING ME A DEMON!

EL

AH
AH

THE HEAD

IT'S
IT'S NOT
POSSIBLE!
PLEASE
NO.

A..
MAZING!

WE...
WON...

EEEEEEE!!!
AAH! THE WAILING OF A LOST SPIRIT!
IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR PARTNER BEAT YOU BACK TO HADES!

KHH

KHAAHK!

I'LL KILL YOU, BOY!

IF IT'S THE LAST THING I EVER DO!

...!
DIE!

DAMN YOU!

KHK..
HA HA HA HA HA! YES... BURN! BURN AND TURN TO ASH!
NOT BEFORE YOU TURN TO ICE, DEMON!

WHAT..
WHAT'S
HAPPEN-
ING?!

KHKHH...

SHATTER!
GAAAAA!!
YAAAAHH!!

AND NOW WE FINISH IT, MOON JU.

...WITH STEEL!

KA

KA

KA

IT'S OVER
YOU'RE SUCH A WEAKLING, MAJEH ALL WORN OUT AFTER FIGHTING A MEASLY PEST LIKE HIM
SIGH
YOU LOOK TERRIBLE!
YEAH...?

WELL, HOW GOOD DO YOU THINK YOU'D LOOK IF YOU'D HAD TO FIGHT WITH A HOLE IN YOUR STOMACH?!

HMPH!

그러지

DOHWA!

MAJEH...?

YOU DID GREAT, GIRL!

H-HEY! WHAT ABOUT ME?
HA HA!
YOU'RE MAGNIFICENT, CHUNG POONG!

HOT DOG!

THANKS FOR HELPING OUT!

YOU SHOULD BE THANKFUL AND STOP CALLING ME "HOT DOG"!

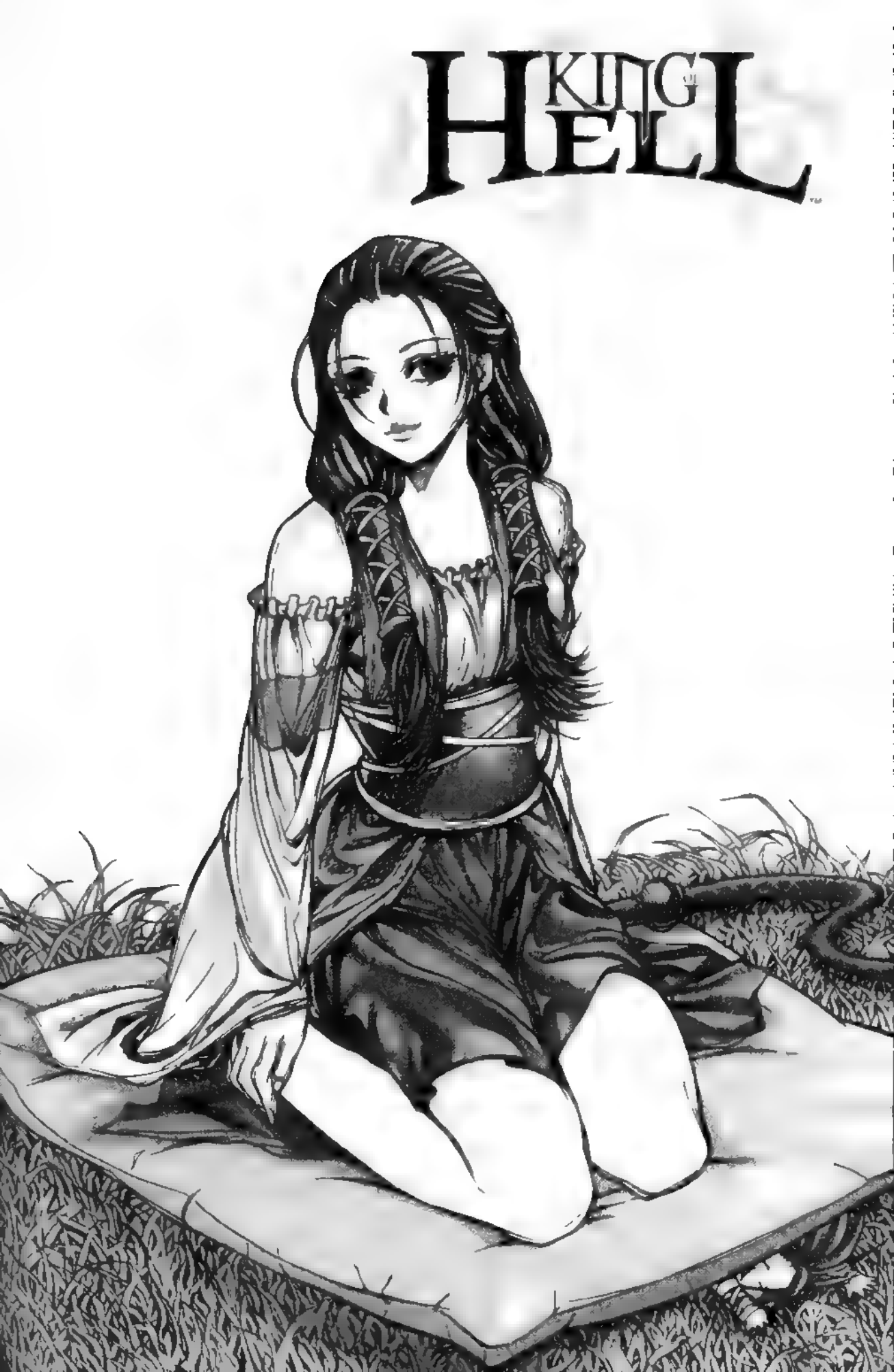
GASP! MAJEH! WHAT ABOUT YOUNG?!

CHIK

WE'LL HAVE TO THAW HIM OUT, OF COURSE
HMM...
BUT HOW?
WHY ARE YOU ALL LOOKING AT ME?!
DAMMIT!!
ARRRRGH! IT'S GONNA TAKE FOREVER TO THAW HIM OUT!!!
...

SIGH.
MASTER MO YOUNG!

THANK YOU FOR WORKING SO HARD, HEALER.
SO IS THERE ANY HOPE FOR THE BOY?
HMM..
ALL THE OTHERS ARE NEARLY HEALED, BUT THIS YOUNG MAN...
NO..I'M AFRAID THERE MAY BE NO HOPE FOR POOR CRAZY DOG!


KING
HELL

SIGH! THAT'S GOING TO BE TROUBLESOME THE CLANS ARE IN AN UPROAR AS IT IS
NO MATTER WHAT, YOU MUST RESTORE HIS MIND NO MATTER THE COST
UNFORTUNATELY, HIS BRAIN IS WHERE THE DIFFICULTY LIES, MASTER
IT WOULD BE MUCH EASIER IF WE KNEW EXACTLY WHAT THAT BASTARD FROM THE BLOOD SECT HAD DONE TO THIS YOUNG MAN
REST ASSURED, I HAVE MEN SEARCHING FOR HIM EVEN AS WE SPEAK.

BY THE WAY, DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT OBJECT ON HIS STOMACH IS?

I'M SORRY TO SAY THAT I DON'T BUT I *DO* KNOW THAT IT'S WHAT'S KEEPING HIM ALIVE!

AHH! HOW VERY COMPLICATED I'LL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR WORK NOW, HEALER THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR EFFORTS

IT IS MY HONOR, MASTER!

UH OH! WE HAVE TO GET OFF THIS ISLAND NOW!
WHY THE RUSH, HOT DOG?
I'LL TELL YOU WHY, YOU IRRITATING BOY! THE FOUNDATION OF THIS ISLAND HAS BEEN COMPROMISED.
THIS ENTIRE ISLAND IS GOING TO SINK AND IF WE DON'T GET OFF, IT'LL TAKE US WITH IT!

WELL, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO? LET'S GO!

STOP RIGHT THERE!!

HMM?

WHY IS IT THAT I HAVE TO CARRY THIS THING?

BECAUSE YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S NOT INJURED!

DAMN!!

MOORIM
HEADQUARTERS
SO...IS THERE ANY NEWS, LIEUTENANT?
THROUGHOUT THE REGION, WE HAVE MOBILIZED SQUADS WHO ARE SEARCHING FOR SIGNS OF THE ENEMY.
WE MUST FIND THE SA GOK HEADQUARTERS!

WE HAVE SENT MEN TO INVESTIGATE SEVERAL SUSPICIOUS AREAS.

WE CAN EXPECT NEWS VERY SOON.

HMM...

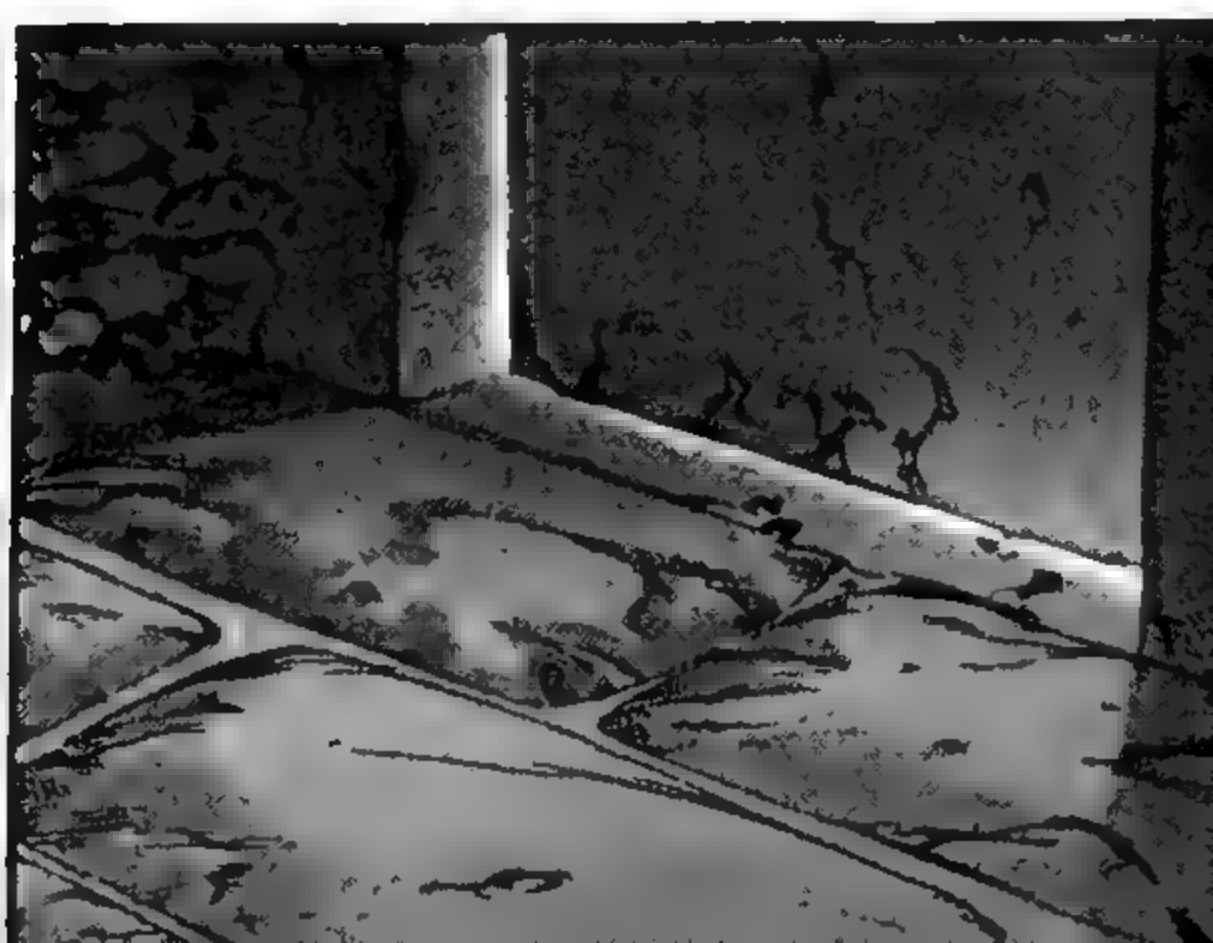
YOUNG FRIEND...

...I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR OLDER BROTHER.

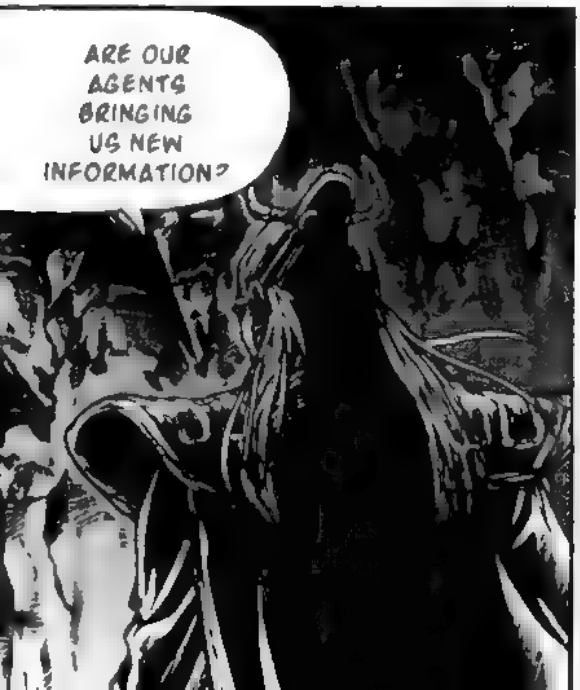
.....

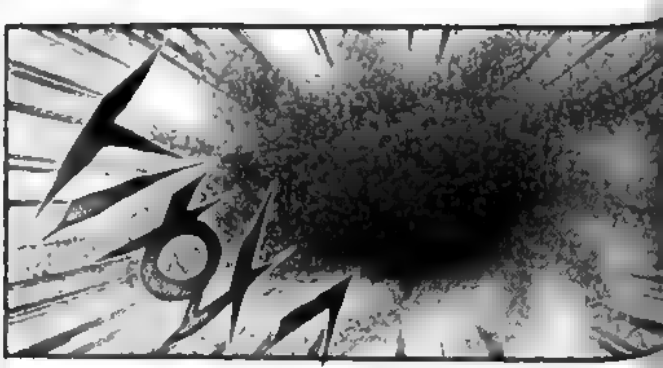
THERE IS NO NEED FOR SYMPATHY, MASTER
HE DISGRACED THE NAME OF THE MOORIM AND OF YOU, OUR MARTIAL ARTS LEADER
.....
I...
...WILL WORK HARD TO MAKE AMENDS FOR HIS CRIME!

SA GOK



THE DOO
TO THE
NEXT
WORLD I
OPENING


ARE OUR
AGENTS
BRINGING
US NEW
INFORMATION?



AHH! GHOST ISLE HAS FALLEN.
HEH HEH HEH! THEN THAT MEANS THAT FOUR HAVE DIED...
THAT'S QUITE A FEAT YOU'VE ACHIEVED, MAJEH!!
I FEEL CERTAIN THIS WILL COME TO THE ATTENTION OF CHUN SALMA!
EVERYTHING IS FALLING INTO PLACE, RIGHT ACCORDING TO OUR PLANS!

ALL THAT HAS TRANSPIRED WILL SURELY WAKEN CHUN SALMA!

이글
이글

WHY DID MASTER MO YOUNG SEND US TO SUCH A GODFORSAKEN PLACE TO SEARCH FOR THE SA GOKS?

OHH

OHH

I DON'T KNOW, BUT HE MUST HAVE HAD A GOOD REASON FOR DOING SO!

REASON OR NOT...THIS HEAT WILL KILL US!

AS THE GREAT SAVIORS OF THE MOORIM, WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THIS ONE AND ONLY TASK TO PERFORM, BROTHERS. WE CAN'T EVEN *THINK* ABOUT GIVING UP...

...

CAN WE?

.....

LET'S...GO BACK.

ON SECOND THOUGHT, WE'VE COME ALL THIS WAY WE SHOULD KEEP GOING!

OF THE DEMONS WE SENT OUT INTO THE MORTAL WORLD...

...FOUR HAVE PERISHED. HOWEVER...

...CHUN SALMA HAS STILL NOT AWAK-ENED!

WE MUST BE PATIENT.

MAJEH IS NOT KNOWN FOR HIS PRUDENCE. WHILE HE IS IN THE WORLD OF MAN, HE WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO BLOODY HIS HANDS.
AND THEN EVERYTHING WILL TURN OUT JUST AS WE PLANNED!
CORRECT! BUT LET US NOT FORGET...
...THAT THOSE PLANS ALSO INCLUDE MAJEH'S DEATH.
NEVER FEAR. THE REMAINING DEMONS WILL TAKE CARE OF EVERYTHING!
HEH HEH HEH!
HA HA HA!

SAMHUK! HOW IS OUR MAJEH DOING?!

HE HAS YET TO WAKE UP, MAJESTY HE HAS BEEN UNCONSCIOUS FROM THE MOMENT HE RETURNED FROM GHOST ISLE!

...

HMM...

COULD THIS BE THE HANDIWORK OF CHUN SALMA?

CONTINUE TO WATCH OVER MAJEH, AND IF ANYTHING UNUSUAL HAPPENS, REPORT BACK TO ME IMMEDIATELY!
YES, SIRE!
AS YOU COMMAND!

KING
HELL

KILL!
KILL!
KILL!
WHO... WHO'S THERE?!

KILL!

ALL THE WORLDS...

ALL OF HEAVEN...

EVERYTHING MUST DIE...

KILL!

KILL!

KILL!

KHK!

KILL!

KILL!

KHH--

EE... ENOUGH...

STOP!

우걱 우걱
MORE

WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU?

NOT ENOUGH...

...!

THERE ISN'T ENOUGH.
I NEED MORE...
YOU... YOU CRAZY... BASTARD!!

ARE... ARE YOU FROM THE DEMON WORLD?!

ANSWER!!

ANSWER...

..OR FACE..

...HEAVEN'S ARROWS!!
!
M-MY POWER IT'S NOT WORKING!
WHY?

GIVE...
ME...
MORE!

KAAAHK!
NOOOOOO!!!

WHAT... WHAT HAPPENED, MAJEH?

AH...

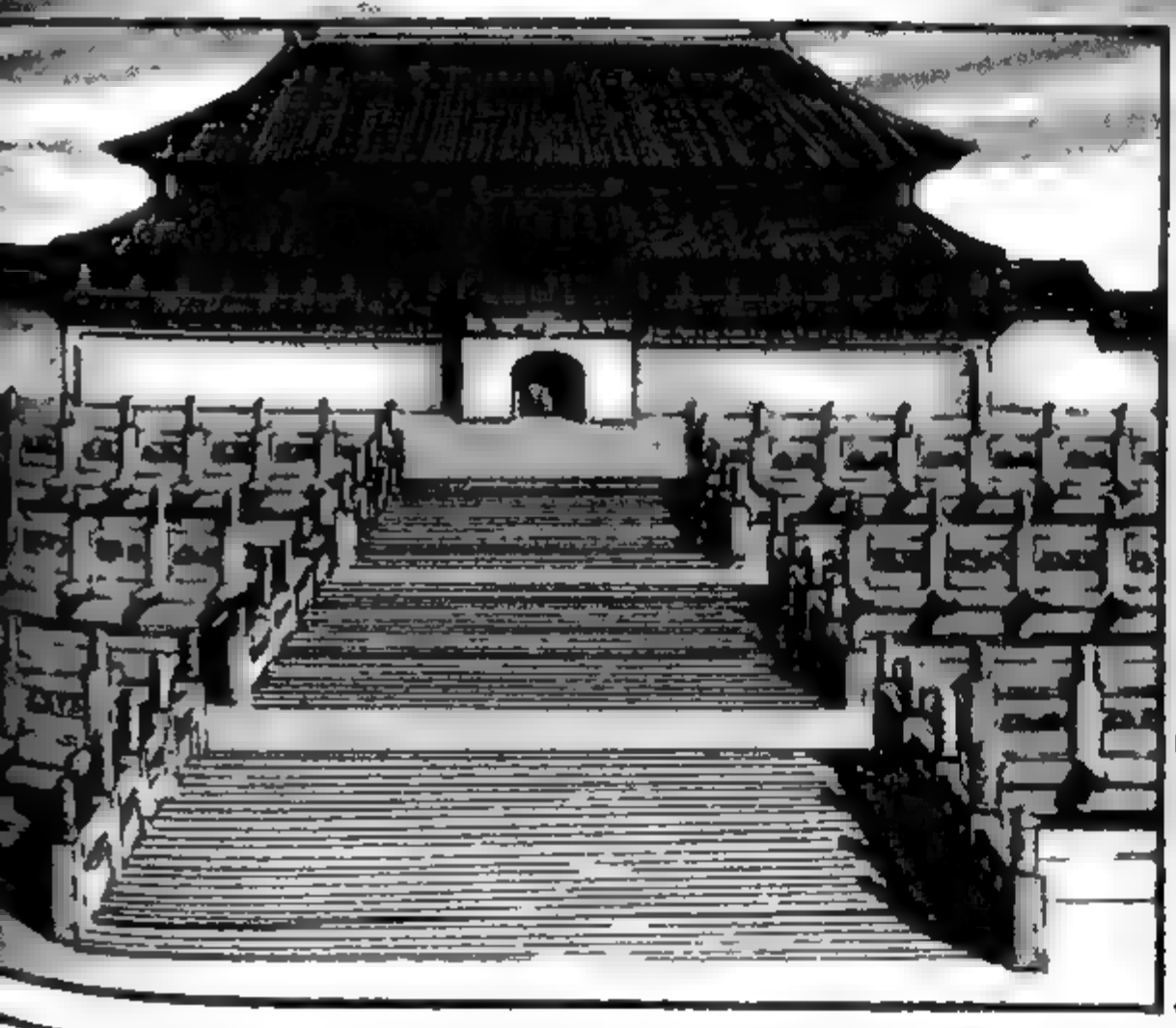
NOTHING... I JUST HAD...A DREAM.

MAJEH

ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT?

YES NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT
YOU SHOULD REST SOME MORE UNLIKE US, YOU ACTUALLY DIED AND CAME BACK TO LIFE!
HA! I'LL TAKE YOUR ADVICE FOR ONCE, CHUNG POONG!
BUT...HOW COULD IT HAVE BEEN...JUST A DREAM?

AFTER I BECAME AN ENVOY TO THE NEXT WORLD, I CEASED HAVING DREAMS!



BUTTERFLY... BUTTERFLY..
WOW...
SIGH... I WAS ABLE TO RESTORE CRAZY DOG'S BODY, BUT HIS MIND HAS REGRESSED INTO THAT OF A CHILD!
I'M VERY SORRY, MASTER MO YOUNG I AM ASHAMED TO CALL MYSELF A HEALER!

YOU SHOULDN'T BE THE WAY HE IS NOW IS FAR BETTER THAN HOW HE WAS

BUTTERFLY!

HMM

YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT THE MEN I SENT SEEKING THE SA GOKS HAVE DISAPPEARED?

IT SEEMS SO, MASTER MO YOUNG. WE'VE LOST CONTACT WITH THE THREE WHO CALL THEMSELVES THE *INSANE HOUNDS*

I'M AFRAID THEY'VE GONE MISSING.
WHAT WAS THEIR LAST KNOWN LOCATION?
THE GOBI DESERT.
MMM.. I WONDER IF THEY FOUND THE SA GOK HEADQUARTERS.
AS IT STANDS, THAT IS SOMETHING WE CANNOT EVEN BEGIN TO GUESS AT
WE MUST SEND A SEARCH PARTY AFTER THEM
.....

IS THAT WISE, MASTER?

IF THIS WAS AN ORDINARY MISSION, SENDING OUT AN ORDINARY SEARCH PARTY WOULD BE NO PROBLEM BUT

WHAT IF WE ENCOUNTER OPPOSITION FROM THE SA GOK? THEN WE WOULD NEED ***MORE*** THAN JUST ORDINARY MEN!

OUR MEN WHO WERE TURNED INTO ZOMBIES... HOW GOES THEIR RECOVERY?

AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED, BUT STILL MORE TIME WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE THEY ARE FULLY HEALED

.....

IN ALL HONESTY, I DON'T FEEL THEY ARE YET UP TO SUCH A MISSION.
YES.. I AGREE!
NO MATTER I HAVE SOMEONE ELSE I CAN SEND TO SEARCH FOR THOSE THREE MEN, SO YOU CAN FOCUS YOUR ENERGY ON OTHER MATTERS
AS YOU WISH, MASTER MO YOUNG!

MAJEH!

HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

MUCH BETTER, YOUNG. THANKS.

GOOD I WAS BEGINNING TO THINK YOU HAD TURNED INTO A TOTAL WIMP!

LOOK WHO'S TALKING! AREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO IDIOTICALLY GOT HIMSELF FROZEN?!

THAT WAS AN ACCIDENT! AN ACCIDENT, DAMMIT!

파닥 파닥

HEH HEH! I'M GLAD YOU'RE OKAY, TOO, YOUNG!

.....
THANKS!
MAJEH! SOMEONE IS HERE TO SEE YOU
HUH?
THE MARTIAL ARTS LEADER, MASTER MO YOUNG, HAS SENT ME TO SEE YOU!

KING
HELL

WOW! NOW THIS IS FIRST CLASS TREATMENT! MO YOUNG ACTUALLY SENT US A HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGE TO ESCORT US BACK!
HOW CAN YOU ENJOY YOURSELF WHILE I'M HERE WITH MY STOMACH TURNING SOMERSAULTS INSIDE THIS CONTRAPTION!

HO HO! THE MARTIAL ARTS LEADER SENT THIS CARRIAGE BECAUSE HE CARES ABOUT YOU, MAJEH

THAT'S RIGHT IT'S BECAUSE HE KNOWS YOU'RE A POOR *INVALID!*

DAMMIT! ALL THIS SHAKING AND BUMPING IS GOING TO RE-OPEN MY STOMACH WOUND!

SIGH... YOU COUNTRY BUMPKINS!

MAKING A RUCKUS ABOUT A CARRIAGE... DON'T YOU REALIZE HOW *ROMANTIC* IT IS TO RIDE IN SUCH A FINE CONVEYANCE?

WHO ARE YOU CALLING "LOWER BUMPKING"?
YOU LOOKIN' FOR TROUBLE, YOUNG?!
WOOF!!
SHUT UP, YOU VERMIN! I'M TRYIN' TA SLEEP HERE!
...
ZZZ

...

SEVEN DAYS LATER...

푸르륵
WE'VE ARRIVED!
AHH!
I GUESS I GREW ATTACHED TO THIS OLD PLACE IN THE SHORT TIME I HAD HERE. IT SURE FEELS GOOD TO BE BACK!

IT'S A PUPPY, A PUPPY!!

HUH?
.....
CRAZY DOG!

HE WAS A *ZOMBIE* THE LAST TIME WE SAW HIM! HAS HE REGAINED HIS SENSES?

WHAT *IS* THIS BOY?!

HA! WHAT DO YOU THINK HE IS, HOT DOG?

HE SMELLS LIKE A BLOODY MONSTER FROM HELL!!

...!
WHAT'S HE DOING?!

COME HERE, LIL' DOGGIE!

HEY!

CRAZY DOG?

YO!

OH
HAVEN'T I TOLD YOU NOT TO THROW SHARP OBJECTS?!
AH! MISTER! SORRY, SORRY!
SIGH...
.....
WELCOME BACK, MAJEH!
UH... THANKS?

.....

SO MY OLD FRIEND IS...GONE.

I'M SORRY.

NO... I'M SURE YOU DID ALL YOU COULD FOR HIM.

SIGH .. ALL MY FRIENDS ARE LEAVING WITHOUT ME. I'VE LIVED FAR TOO LONG ON THIS EARTH
SIGH...
CRAZY DOG'S AN EVEN BIGGER HEADACHE NOW THAT HE'S BECOME A KID!
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN
WHY DOES HE KEEP FOLLOWING US AROUND?!
EKO

IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU, MAJEH!

HUH?

DON'T YOU GET IT?

HE'S BEING DRAWN TO YOUR NEXT WORLD AURA!

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE OF THE MONSTER BLOOD SERUM HE HAS IN HIM?

WHATEVER THE REASON, YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF ANOTHER SIDEKICK! HEH HEH!

COME PLAY WITH ME, BROTHER!

I HAVE A *BAD* FEELING ABOUT THIS!

THE MARTIAL ARTS LEADER IS REQUESTING YOU.
I APOLOGIZE FOR CALLING YOU BACK ALL THIS WAY, YOUNG MAJEH.
THAT'S FUNNY. YOU DON'T LOOK APOLOGETIC!
HA HA

I ASSUME THERE'S A REASON WHY YOU WENT TO SO MUCH EFFORT TO BRING ME BACK FROM THE OUTLANDS!

WE ARE CURRENTLY ATTEMPTING TO TRACK DOWN THE SA GOK.

HOWEVER...

...SEVERAL MEN WHO WERE PURSUING THEM... HAVE DISAPPEARED.

HMM...

ACTUALLY, YOU KNOW THESE MEN.

THEY ARE THE MASTERS WHO CALL THEMSELVES THE INSANE HOUNDS.
"MASTERS"?! THOSE THREE IDIOTS HAVE CERTAINLY MOVED UP IN SOCIETY!
AND WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH ME, MO YOUNG?
SHOULDN'T THE MOORIM BE OVERFLOWING WITH MANPOWER NOW?
YES...
UNTIL THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE WHITE AND BLACK SECTS ERUPTED

MANY OF THE MOORIM'S BEST MARTIAL ARTISTS WERE TRANSFORMED INTO ZOMBIES..

.. AND ARE CURRENTLY STILL IN RECOVERY. AS FOR THE VARIOUS OTHER CLANS, THEY ARE RELUCTANT TO SEND THEIR MEN TO HELP US.

UNTIL WE HAVE LOCATED THE SA GOK HEADQUARTERS, WE WILL BE HARD PRESSED IN OBTAINING THEIR HELP.

BUT SINCE I'M NOT ASSOCIATED WITH ANY SINGLE CLAN, *I'M* THE MAN FOR THE JOB!

THAT'S BESIDE THE POINT. I'M BASING MY DECISION ON THE REMARKABLE ABILITIES YOU'VE DEMONSTRATED.

SIGH. . I SWEAR THAT OLD MAN IS GOING TO CONTINUE USING ME UNTIL I'M ALL WORN OUT!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MAJEH?!
I MEAN WE'RE LEAVING FOR THE DESERT TOMORROW, FRIENDS. YOU'D BETTER PACK LIGHT.

KING
HELL

THE DESERT?!
YES. IT SEEMS THAT DURING THEIR SEARCH FOR THE SA GOK, THE INSANE HOUNDS DISAPPEARED.
WHAT?
MO YOUNG ASKS THAT WE SEARCH FOR THE THREE OF THEM AND ALSO FOR THE LOCATION OF THE SA GOK HEADQUARTERS.
JEEZ!
THOSE THREE FOOLS ARE ALWAYS CAUSING PROBLEMS.
BUT...IS IT REALLY NECESSARY FOR US TO GO SEARCHING FOR THEM?

HMM...

AS YOU ALL KNOW, I'M STILL CHASING AFTER THE DEMONS WHO ESCAPED FROM HELL INTO THIS WORLD.

AND THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT A CLUE TO THEIR WHEREABOUTS WILL COME TO ME IF I JUST SIT AROUND IN ONE PLACE

ALSO, AT THIS POINT, THE SCENT OF HELL THE ESCAPED FIENDS CARRIED WITH THEM HAS LONG SINCE DISSIPATED.

THAT MEANS I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA HOW TO FIND THEM BY MYSELF.

INSTEAD, I HAVE TO RELY ON THE **MUTT!**

MUTT?! ME?!
YOU WANNA DIE, BOY?!!
TO GIVE HOT DOG HERE THE BEST CHANCE OF SNIFFING THE DEMONS OUT, WE NEED TO TRAVEL AROUND
EVEN IF IT MEANS DRAGGING US ALL THROUGH THE DESERT YOU KNOW WHAT I HAVE TO SAY TO THAT?
WHAT'S THAT, YOUNG?
WHAT TIME [illegible] LEAVING?
I'M GOING, TOO!
NOON. 12 O'CLOCK SHARP.

IF BROTHER MAJEH IS GOING, THEN I'M GOING TOO!

NO WAY!

NO! I WANNA GO! I'M GONNA GO!

I'M GOING! I'M GOING!

I'M GOING! I'M GOING!

HAS HE GONE CRAZY?!

HE IS CALLED CRAZY DOG.

I'M GOING! GOING! GOING!

SOMEONE PUT HIM TO SLEEP!

.....

SIGH!

.....

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT

THIS LITTLE TWERP HAS BE[redacted]WAKE ALL NIGHT BECAUSE HE WAS AFRAID WE'D LEAVE WITHOUT HIM?

IT SURE LOOKS THAT WAY

HE'S GIVING ME THE CREEPS!

HE'S GOING TO BE SUCH A HEAD-ACHE.

PLEASE PERSUADE CRAZY DOG TO STAY HERE, HEALER.

.....

I THINK IT WOULD BE GOOD IF YOU TOOK HIM WITH YOU, MAJEH
SIR?!
HE NEEDS SOMEONE TO LOVE.
YES, BUT EVEN IF THAT'S TRUE--
PLEASE, JUST THINK ABOUT IT.
.....

DON'T YOU FEEL SORRY FOR HIM? THE POOR YOUNG MAN...

SO WHAT HAVE YOU DECIDED TO DO ABOUT OUR INSANE LITTLE FRIEND, MAJEH?

I'VE DECIDED TO TAKE HIM WITH US.

WHAT?!

JEEZ! MY HEAD HURTS! ANYWAY, THE HEALER IS PACKING HIS BELONGINGS AND BRINGING HIM TO US!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!

EH?!

I'M SORRY FOR KEEPING YOU WAITING.

WHA... WHAT IS THIS?!

IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN JUST SEND HIM OUT WITHOUT ANY PROTECTION!

GASP..

HIS MIND IS THAT OF A LITTLE BOY, BUT HIS FIGHTING SKILLS SHOULD STILL BE INTACT
WHEN I SEE HIM IN THAT GET-UP, I GET CHILLS DOWN MY SPINE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YOUNG?
DIDN'T YOU SEE HIM AT THE BATTLE OF THE WHITE AND BLACK GROUPS?
UHH... I WAS SORT OF OUT OF IT THEN.
WELL, I'LL TELL YOU... THAT GUY...

...IS A MONSTER!

WHAT?!

MAJEH!

HUH?

DON'T I LOOK GREAT?

.....

YEAH! YOU LOOK AWESOME, CRAZY DOG!
YAHOO! I'M SO EXCITED!
ALL RIGHT, LET'S MOVE OUT!
HAVE A SAFE TRIP, CHILDREN.

TRAVELING TO THE DESERT... WHAT UNFORTUNATE KARMA I HAVE!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME ALONG WITH US, YOUNG. JUST [illegible]

I DON'T WANNA. THANKS TO THE BAD ECONOMY, THERE'S NOTHING FOR ME TO DO THERE!

SO, YOU'RE BASICALLY JUST A BUM!

HMPH! THERE MUST BE SOMEONE WHO'D PAY ME TO KILL YOU, MAJEH!

I MIGHT BE WILLING TO TAKE YOU UP ON THAT OFFER, YOUNG!

...

멍

YOU MONGREL! I'VE HAD IT WITH YOU!

GRRR!

THEY'RE SUCH IMBECILES.
I THINK THE PROBLEM IS THEY'RE TOO MUCH ALIKE!
HMPH!
.....
NEXT STOP.
...THE GOBI!

The Next World

MAJESTY, DURING HIS BATTLE WITH THE SHE-FIEND, CERBERUS TRANSFORMED HIMSELF INTO A DEMON.
I'M SURE HE HAD NO OTHER CHOICE, SAMHUK.
BUT, SIRE, THAT MEANS HE'S BROKEN THE PACT!
YOU KNOW OF THE PACT BETWEEN US AND THOSE OF THE DEMON WORLD?

I DO.

IS IT NOT TRUE THAT ALL DEMONS ARE FORBIDDEN FROM INTERFERING WITH OR USING THEIR MAGICAL POWERS IN THE WORLD OF MORTALS?

THAT IS CORRECT!

BUT CERBERUS--

CERBERUS... IS AN *EXCEPTION.*

SIRE?!

THE MARK OF THE DEMON CLAN HAS BEEN ERASED FROM HIS BODY.
.....
HE HAS BEEN ABANDONED BY THOSE OF THE DEMON WORLD.
...!
HE IS A SOUL WITH...MANY ISSUES.

BRO-BROTHERS! I CAN'T GO ANY FARTHER!

I...CAN'T!
털썩
BROTHER!!
뚝
뚝
DAMMIT

BROTH-
ER...

HA HA! TO...DIE...
IN A PLACE LIKE
THIS... SUCH...A
TERRIBLE FATE...

TERRIBLE...
TERRIBLE...

BROTHER!

DAMMIT...
IT'S...
SO...
...HOT.

Z Z Z
코

WELCOME, FRIENDS!!
WATER NOW!

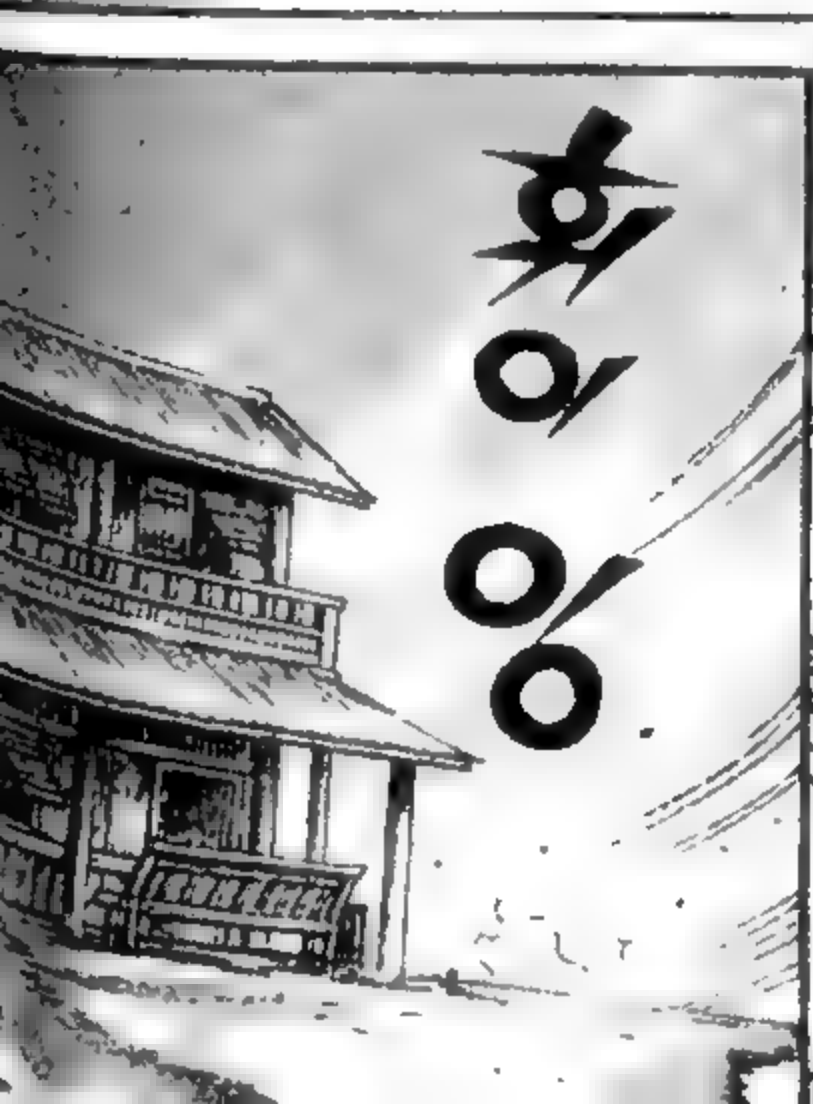
SIR...?
WATER, DAMMIT!
THUD
.....

HEY! INNKEEPER!

MORE WATER, SIRS?

[redacted]O. B[redacted]G US FOOD. LOTS AND LOTS OF FOOD!

YES, SIR! AS YOU WISH!



AND THIS, BOYS, IS HOW IT FEELS TO COME BACK FROM THE DEAD!

TO BE CONTINUED

In the next volume of

King of Hell™

Majeh and his friends make their way to the Gobi Desert in search of the Insane Hounds, but our next volume deals with a journey of a different sort--into Majeh's past!

The veil of time is lifted and we learn the truth about Majeh's human life. The son of a general, Majeh began studying swordsmanship at an early age, but his father and his instructors at the Dawn of Taoism also emphasized the importance of honor and respect for human life. After a shift in political power, a great tragedy befalls Majeh that will test these ideals to the very core. Can Majeh raise his sword against those he once called friends?

It's an action-packed story that's also surprisingly moving, and you're not going to want to miss it! It's coming your way in volume 17!

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